# Hawai'i Volcanoes

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Hawai`i Volcanoes National Park Hawai`i



#### Park Unit

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park celebrates its centennial anniversary in 2016. Established on August 1, 1916, it is the 15<sup>th</sup> National Park in a system that now numbers 410 areas. The park is located in the state of Hawai'i, on the southeastern part of the Island of Hawai'i, in the districts of Ka'ū and Puna. The Superintendent is Cindy Orlando. The park website is <a href="www.nps.gov/havo">www.nps.gov/havo</a>. It is one of 61 parks in the NPS Pacific West Region.

# Purpose

The mission of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park is to protect, conserve, and study the volcanic landscapes and associated natural and cultural resources and processes, and to facilitate safe public access to active volcanism, diverse geographic settings, and wilderness for public education and enjoyment.

#### Resources

In recognition of its outstanding values, Hawai'i Volcanoes has been designated an International Biosphere Reserve (1980) and a World Heritage Site (1987).

#### Geological

Hawai'i Volcanoes extends from sea level to 13,677' (4,169 meters) and encompasses the summits and rift zones of two of the world's most active volcanoes, Kīlauea and Mauna Loa. Kīlauea has been in nearly continuous eruption since 1983; Mauna Loa last erupted in 1984. Volcanic features found within the park include calderas, pit craters, cinder cones, spatter ramparts, fumaroles, solfataras, pāhoehoe and 'a'ā lava flows, tree molds, lava tubes, black sand beaches, and thermal areas.

#### **Biological**

The park's 7 ecological zones, (seacoast, lowland, mid-elevation woodland, rain forest, upland forest, subalpine, and alpine), harbor unique native plant and animal communities. The park provides refuge for many endangered species: honu 'ea (hawksbill turtle), nēnē (Hawaiian goose), 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel), 'io (Hawaiian hawk) and ope'ape'a (Hawaiian hoary bat).

#### Cultural

The cultural heritage begins with indigenous Hawaiians. Their connection to the land, both past and present, is found from the coastal cliffs to the summit craters of both volcanoes. The rich archeological record connects today's Hawaiians to their voyaging ancestors who made landfall on this island. The history of geological exploration and the protection of significant natural landscapes through the establishment of the park is found and shared with visitors by driving the roads, walking through historic districts, visiting historic buildings, and through the use of the park's archives and museum collections.

### **Statistics**

Size 333,086 acres; 66 mi of paved roads; 155 mi of marked trails; 123,100 acres legislated

wilderness; 121,015 acres of eligible wilderness; 7,850 acres potential wilderness 144 employees in 2015 (includes permanent, temporary, and seasonal hires)

Staffing

1,832,660 recreational visits in 2015

Budget

\$7,531, 316 in appropriations for 2015

# Other

Agencies & Organizations

**Annual Visitation** 

Friends of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park

Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association

Hawai'i Volcanoes Lodge Company, LLC

Kīlauea Military Camp, a Joint Services Recreation Center U.S. Geological Survey, Hawaiian Volcano Observatory

U.S. Geological Survey, Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center

U.S. Forest Service, Biological Quarantine Facility

Volcano Art Center

# **Congressional Delegation**

2<sup>nd</sup> District: Senator Brian E. Schatz (D), Senator Mazie K. Hirono (D)

U.S. Representative Tulsi Gabbard (D)